

November 25. 2002

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street SW Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CG Docket No.02-278 and CC Docket No. 92-90; in the matter of rules and regulations implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991.

The Federal Communications Commission has recently solicited comments in regard to the establishment of a National do-not call Program. The Oregon Telecommunications Association (OTA) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on this matter.

The OTA was instrumental in the passage oflegislation that led to the establishment of the Oregon No Call Program (the Program) in January of 2000. The Program is an Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ) program that allows Oregonians to place their residential telephone numbers on a database that telemarketers must purchase. Telemarketers are not allowed to call those numbers placed on the database. The OTA administers the Program on a contractual basis with the Oregon DOJ

By all accounts, the Program has been a success in Oregon. To date, over 80,000 Oregonians have registered their phone numbers on the do-not-call list. The cost for doing so is minimal: \$6.50 per telephone number for the first year and a \$3.00 per year renewal fee thereafter. The Program funds itself through the minimal registration and renewal fees as well as income from telemarketers purchasing the list. No other taxpayer funding of the Program administration is needed.

The Oregon DOJ is responsible for any necessary enforcement action against telemarketers operating in violation of the Program. The Oregon DOJ has levied well over \$450,000.00in fines since the Program's inception. This aggressive enforcement action is a major reason for the success of the Program.

The OTA respectfully requests that any do-not-call program enacted at the federal level exempt those states with their own programs from the federal program. As mentioned in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in this matter, many states currently have successful do-not-call programs that serve their citizens well. Oregon's No Call Program is cost efficient and those Oregonians who choose to have their residential phone numbers listed have seen an end to unwanted telemarketing calls.

The OTA and the Oregon DOJ have worked well together in implementing the Program. Together, we have been able to respond quickly to both residents and telemarketers when the need has arisen. That local touch and ability to respond to consumers **io** an efficient manner might be lost in a federal do-not-call program.

In summary, the Oregon No Call Program is **a** cost-effective, efficient method by which Oregonians can end unwanted telemarketing calls. Oregonians would not be better served by a similar federal program. Therefore, state run do-not-call programs should be allowed to continue to serve their constituents and not be superceded by any similar federal efforts.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments Please do not hesitate to contact **me** if there are any questions in regard to the Oregon No Call program.

S' erely,

Brant Wolf, EVP